

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete paragraph [0009] of the application as filed and replace it with the following replacement paragraph:

-- [0009] In the network shown in FIG. 11 using such prior art relay devices, although the network is redundantly configured, load balancing is not enabled, a load is concentrated on a single relay device, and data which can not be relayed will result. Also, in the network shown in FIG. 12, although the load balancer 400 is required for the load balancing, the network is not redundantly configured. Also, in the processor shown in the Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 6-37865, the frame multiplexer and the control processor are required for the load balancing.--

Please delete paragraph [0048] as filed and replace it with the following replacement paragraph:

--[0048] Thus, the algorithm for relaying only the packet of the remainder of "packet's ID"/"4"= "0" and for discarding the other packets is set in the packet receiver 50 of the relay device 100_1. Similarly, the algorithm for relaying only the packet of the remainder of "packet's ID"/"4"= "1" or "2" and for discarding the other packets is set in the packet receiver 50 of the relay device 100_2, and the algorithm for relaying only the packet of the remainder of "packet's ID"/"4"= "3" and for discarding the other packets is set in the packet receiver 50 of the relay device 100_3.--